

Please see **4 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) ELPA Initial Screening WebEx – Tuesday, August 21, 2012 2) July 2012 Issue of Smarter News 3) 2011-2012 Graduation Rate Appeals Window 4) 2011-2012 Accountability Public Release

### **1) ELPA Initial Screening WebEx – Tuesday, August 21, 2012**

It is important to note that, upon enrollment in a district, **all students** must be given the state mandated Home Language Survey, and a copy of each survey must be kept in the students' records. If one or more of the answers to the survey's two questions is "yes", then the student must be screened using the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Initial Screening tool. This tool is used to help determine eligibility for Limited English Proficient (LEP)/English Language Learner (ELL) services. The Office of Standards & Assessment (OSA) will be hosting a WebEx on **Tuesday, August 21, 2012**, from **11:00 am - 12:00 pm** and a repeat session from **1:00 pm – 2:00 pm** to instruct new ELPA Coordinators and other educators on the necessary steps for administering the ELPA Initial Screening. The WebEx will also serve as a refresher course for current ELPA Coordinators.

To confirm your participation, we are requesting that you respond via email to Cristina Rodriguez at [rodriguezc@michigan.gov](mailto:rodriguezc@michigan.gov). Please indicate the **time** that you would like to participate. Upon receipt of your confirmation, instructions will be sent on how to access the WebEx. Space is limited so be sure to **confirm by Friday, August 17, 2012.**

### **2) July 2012 Issue of Smarter News**

The July 2012 issue of *Smarter News* – the monthly newsletter from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) – is now available. To access the newsletter, please click the link below.

<http://smarterbalancedcreatesend3.com/t/ViewEmail/r/7CA2674C909FB673/2C6463F20F003B3A74AF8F7A76570606>

### **3) 2011-2012 Graduation Rate Appeals Window**

Below is a courtesy copy of the announcement that was sent today by the Michigan Department of Education's Communications Office.

#### **MEMO #84-12**

The Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) opened the 2011-2012 Graduation Rate Appeals window on July 23, 2012 in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). A communication was sent by CEPI to all schools and districts at that time; however, I wanted to follow-up on that communication to stress the importance of ensuring graduation rate data are accurate now. Graduation rates are an important part of accountability calculations, and data from the 2011-2012 school year, once finalized (September 12, 2012), cannot be changed.

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Grad\\_Rate\\_Appeals\\_394175\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Grad_Rate_Appeals_394175_7.pdf)

#### **4) 2011-2012 Accountability Public Release**

As you are probably already aware, the Michigan Department of Education publicly released the Michigan School Report Cards today at 10:00am. Please see the links below to the Press Release, Reward Schools, Focus Schools, Priority Schools, Top-to- Bottom, and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

Greater Transparency on Student Achievement Highlights 2012 Statewide Report Cards  
<http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140--283620--,00.html>

[www.michigan.gov/rewardschools](http://www.michigan.gov/rewardschools)

[www.michigan.gov/focusschools](http://www.michigan.gov/focusschools)

[www.michigan.gov/prioritieschools](http://www.michigan.gov/prioritieschools)

[www.michigan.gov/ttb](http://www.michigan.gov/ttb)

[www.michigan.gov/ayp](http://www.michigan.gov/ayp)

#### **Questions?**

Please email us at [baa@michigan.gov](mailto:baa@michigan.gov) or call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.